

The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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A rendering of the city's vision for Coney Island. But first, Mayor Bloomberg needs to buy the land from Joe Sitt.

CONEY SITT DOWN

City moves to buy out Joe

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The city is moving forward with a controversial plan to spend hundreds of millions in taxpayer dollars to buy out Coney Island's principal landowner and end a years-long standoff to control the amusement area's destiny.

Joe Sitt's company, Thor Equities, has gobbled up 10-1/2 acres of land since 2005 in the hopes of developing a Vegas-style resort of hotels, rides and shopping — but Sitt's plan, which would require a rezoning, was blocked by the Bloomberg Administration in favor of a city-owned theme park along the Boardwalk.

The city, of course, couldn't realize that vision without first acquiring Sitt's land. And now, it appears that the developer will welcome an offer.

"We are having positive discussions with the city," said Thor's spokesman Ste-

EDITORIAL: P. 10

fan Friedman in a statement.

The New York Post reported on Monday that the city might pay up to \$250 million for Sitt's land, which he bought for about \$100 million, but several sources said the city would pay less.

The two camps were at loggerheads over who would control Coney's destiny, with the city interested in acquiring five acres from Sitt that fell within the area targeted for the city-owned theme park.

But now, the city is willing to also buy the Thor holdings in the area designed for private developers to build hotels, restaurants, arcades and other attractions that the city says would make Coney Island a tourist magnet throughout the year.

These additional acres will cost the city tens of millions extra than it had in-

tended to pay to launch its grand plan. Still, the city's plan is held in higher esteem than Thor's among a vocal group of Coney Island boosters who want to see as many rides and games in the area than high-rise hotels and shopping — though the city plan includes both.

The city has long held Sitt in low esteem, even as he bought up Coney's core.

Without mentioning Sitt or his company by name, the mayor suggested that his rival had no interest in preserving the beachfront amusement area.

"There are private developers [in Coney Island] who have their own economic interests and ... we're trying to reconcile property values with what's in the public interest," he said in September.

The mayor has momentum on his side. The Coney Island Economic Development Corporation last month purchased an acre of land used by Deno's Wonder Wheel Park that Sitt had failed to buy for \$11 million.



Joe Sitt, who bought up key parcels of Coney Island, is in talks with the city to sell them.

RELIGHT!

Eternal lamp shines again for Revolutionary War dead

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The eternal flame is living up to its name again.

On Saturday night in Fort Greene Park, a tribute to the thousands of prisoners of war who died on British prison ships during the Revolutionary War was relit for the first time in 87 years.

More than 500 people gathered in the park on a cold and rainy day to celebrate the centennial of the Prison Ship Martyrs Monument, whose "eternal lamp" went dim in 1921.

"I've been waiting my whole life to see this lit," said Mark De Palma, a history buff who grew up in Carroll Gardens, a few miles from the 145-foot Doric column that was erected in 1908 to honor the 11,000 prisoners of war who died on British ships in the East River.

Beneath the column is a crypt, restored by the city Parks Department, that contains remains of the victims, whose bodies washed ashore for decades after the United States won independence.

"This is part of our heritage and part of our cultural wealth," said Ruth Goldstein, a volunteer from the Fort Greene Park Conservancy who helped organize the centennial.

The switching on of the eternal lamp, which will be lit between sundown and sunup, culminated a day of pomp and circumstance in the park designed by Calvert Vaux and Frederick Law Olmsted.

Interest in the prison ship martyrs ebbed and flowed over the years. Walt Whitman, writing in the long-defunct Brooklyn Daily Eagle in the mid-1800s, championed calls to build a proper burial place for the victims, but it was only in the late 19th century that the idea gathered widespread support, reaching its pinnacle at the 1908 dedication that drew tens of thousands of spectators. It was such a big event that then-President-elect William Taft schlepped his considerable girth to Brooklyn to be there (the current President-elect was invited, but chose not to attend).

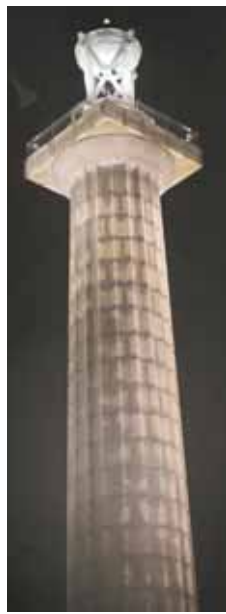
Taft delivered a scathing criticism of the British, saying their mistreatment of American prisoners was "revolting to every instinct of human nature," the New York Times reported then. He also praised the Martyrs Monument as "an inspiration to future unselfish and unheralded sacrifice to maintain our institutions of liberty and civilization."

But the monument's brief moment in the public consciousness faded quickly, partially because the United States deepened its friendly relationship with Great Britain during World War I. A long period of decline soon followed. In 1921, the eternal flame in an urn atop the column was darkened. In the 1930s, an elevator that carried visitors to the top fell into disrepair and was eventually removed.

Saturday's ceremonies attempted to atone for the decades of neglect — and insult.

See **MARTYRS** on page 9

11,000 POWs buried here



The Prison Ship Martyrs Monument in Fort Greene Park was rededicated on Saturday to commemorate its 100th anniversary. As part of the event, the eternal flame was relit.

HOUSE OF DON'T!

Jail reopens, lawsuit is filed

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

One day after the city confined inmates overnight in the Brooklyn House of Detention for the first time in five years, a coalition of jail opponents sued to block the city's plan to re-open and expand the 11-story prison.

The Department of Correction surprised elected officials in Brooklyn when it notified them on Friday that about 35 inmates would be incarcerated in the Atlantic Avenue facility on Sunday. New York's Boldest are gearing up for a \$440-million project to double the size of its Brooklyn lockup to hold about 1,500 prisoners, but many neighbors in and around Boerum Hill have objected to an active jail in their increasingly posh area.

The lawsuit was filed on Mon-



Comptroller Bill Thompson was one of several elected officials to announce a lawsuit on Tuesday to prevent the city from reopening the Brooklyn House of Detention.

day in state Supreme Court. It argues that it's illegal for the Bloomberg Administration to reactivate the clinic without securing approval from other

branches of city and state government.

"The city is clearly violating the law here and denying the

See **JAIL** on page 9

Smartmom's turquoise turmoil

Smartmom admits it: She's a coward!

This all goes back to last week, when the Oh So Feisty One showed up at school with a large streak of turquoise in her hair. The entire class of middle schoolers made fun of Smartmom's girl.

So what was Smartmom's first reaction? You guessed it — panic.

Before she even had a chance to talk to OSFO, Smartmom made an appointment for her girl at Medusa Hair Salon to get the turquoise dye taken out in time for the next school day.

Talk about putting the colorist before the conversation.

Everyone hates my hair and they keep making fun of it," OSFO told Smartmom. "Everyone is asking, 'Why did you do it?' and telling me that I shouldn't have done it."

But OSFO wasn't looking for Smartmom to make it all go away. She was looking for support because she didn't WANT to make it go away.

"I just called Medusa. You can cover it up if you want," Smartmom told OSFO.

"No way!" OSFO shouted out. "That would be cowardly. Besides I like it and I want to keep it."



OSFO is sticking with her blue look — and Smartmom is proud (sort of).



By Louise Crawford

Smartmom fell silent. You could have heard a plastic glove with Manic Panic dye on it drop.

And there it was: Smartmom was the coward, the person whose self-esteem relied on the opinion of the group. Naturally, she had just assumed that OSFO would want to undo what she'd done.

See **TURQUOISE** on page 10

Hospital's baby, kid, teeth units saved

The Brooklyn Paper

The state Department of Health has turned down Long Island College Hospital's request to close its

maternity, pediatrics and dentistry divisions in what the hospital's management company portrayed as a last-ditch effort to stave off fi-

nancial ruin at the 150-year-old medical center.

"[The] plan is not acceptable at this time," James Clyne, the state's deputy

commissioner for health systems management, wrote on Monday to the hospital's overseers, the Manhattan-

See **LICH** on page 9

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Merchants: Bike lane is a pain

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

A controversial pair of newly painted bike lanes are great for Williamsburg and Greenpoint bike riders, but they're hurting Kent Avenue business owners.

Two weeks ago, the city eliminated all parking on both sides of the waterfront thoroughway between Quay and Clymer streets to make room for the business owners say that the new parking restrictions have made commerce impossible.

"My customers come in cars and when there is no parking, they shop somewhere else," said Justine Franko, owner of the furniture and home furnishings shop, On Sweet Home, which is between North 10th and North 11th streets.

During a typically strong week in mid-November — when Franko could usually net between \$1,500 and \$2,000 — she earned only \$200. She attributes the sudden decline to the lack of parking, not the ailing economy.

"I am mortified," she said. "If things don't change, I won't last six months."

David Reina — a manufacturer of machines that produce paper — said deliveries to his workshop, which is between Grand and North First streets, are now a challenge because of the new "no-stopping, no-standing zone" on Kent Avenue.

As a result, drivers can no longer take curbside to deliver the raw metal that Reina sculpts into presses, he said. What's good for pedalers is proving not to



The battle for Brooklyn's byways

MEAN Streets

be good for peddlers.

"I used to be able to get my deliveries right in front, but now I have to go around the corner with a 20-foot piece of steel sticking off my forklift — that just doesn't make sense," he said.

Even the biggest proponents of the bike lanes — which will eventually become part of a long-planned route from Greenpoint to Sunset Park — say that turning all of Kent Avenue into a no-standing zone wasn't wise.

"The way that the Department of Transportation went around changing the signage



David Reina has to use his forklift to unload equipment because the new bike lane on Kent Avenue prevents trucks from making deliveries.

on Kent Avenue was brainless," said Teresa Toro, chair of the Community Board 1 Transportation Committee. "They took a blanket approach that you really shouldn't do."

Department of Transportation spokesman Scott Gastel said his agency is now considering altering parking restrictions in certain cases.

The city has already made at least one such change, when it altered the no-parking, no-standing zone in front of the Zafir Jewish Learning Center for Special Education near the corner of South Eighth Street to allow school buses to pick-up and drop-off students.

David has 'pent' up trouble

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Reversing an earlier reversal, the Bloomberg administration has ruled that rooftop structures on a surprisingly controversial apartment building on Atlantic Avenue exceed the height restrictions of the Cobble Hill Historic District.

The Department of Buildings said last Monday that it might revoke — retroactively — construction permits issued earlier to Two Trees Management for condos already built adjacent to the new Trader Joe's supermarket.

The city claims that cabanas on the roof violate the neighborhood's 50-foot height cap.

The city's timing is peculiar, because construction is complete and residents have moved in. Neighborhood activists, who hit the roof in the spring when they watched workers build the roof-top spaces, relished the latest twist, and believe the cabanas must be razed.

"They were caught," said Jeff Strabone, president of the Cobble Hill Association. "If they get more than 50 feet, then the historic designation means nothing."

Marketing materials from Two Trees confirmed the suspicions of the critics — and indeed were the smoking gun that led to the city's decision. Images from the brochures, obtained by The Brooklyn Paper, show the layout of the top-floor apartments indicate that they each have access to a private "pent-house," even though Two Trees had described the structures in its



The city may pull permits for Two Trees building on Atlantic Avenue, saying that it exceeds height caps.

permit documents as "stairways."

The latest decision is another twist to the city's inconsistent judgment on this luxury project in Cobble Hill.

Complaints began over a year ago when Two Trees, run by father-and-son David and Jed Valentas, sought city permission to exceed the 50-foot cap. The City Council denied that request, but Two Trees later won approval for a modified building that would include "stairway bulkheads" from top-floor units to the roof.

The city re-investigated the project, allowed it to continue, then stopped it, then forced Two Trees to reduce the size of the structures, and now may require the developer to renovate the building's rooftop again.

The Valentases remained defiant: "Two Trees has a certificate of occupancy issued by the Department of Buildings and the building is nearly fully inhabited," the company said in a statement. "This building is built fully in conformance with all Department of Buildings and Department of City Planning regulations, stipulations and requests and filed drawings."

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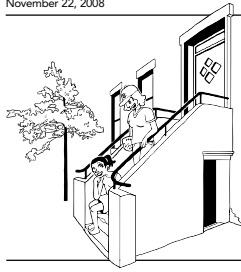
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BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Garage goes underground

By Ben Muessig
 The Brooklyn Paper

The owner of a historic Brooklyn Heights apartment complex buried his own plan to put a garage in the courtyard — and the city approved it!

The Landmarks Preservation Commission voted 6-2 on Tuesday to allow Joralemon Street landlord Joel Weiner to build a 90-car, underground garage topped with a garden behind the 118-year-old Riverside houses that were built by famed philanthropist Alfred T. White.

The approval comes six months after the Commission rejected Weiner's application to build a two-story, 134-car, above-ground garage topped with a garden. The site is sandwiched hard against the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway — across the street from the large One Brooklyn Bridge Park condos and future waterfront open space, which explains the push for more parking.

Moving the carport underground was all it took to convince the majority of Landmarks officials to approve the project, Commission spokeswoman Lisa



A plan to build a ground-level parking lot at the Riverside Apartment complex in Brooklyn Heights will go forward.

de Bourbon said.

And tenants, who strongly opposed earlier garage proposals, will warm up to the subterranean plan, claimed former City Councilman Ken Fisher, who is representing the landlord.

"We're going to be removing 10,000 square feet of asphalt, and basically doubling the amount of green space in the courtyard with minimal in-

trusion from the parking," said Fisher. "We hope that in time, residents will recognize that it will be significantly improved experience."

So far, residents of the 157 apartments in the complex aren't buying what their former councilman is selling.

"It's a historic building, and it should stay the way it is," said Bill Ringler, chair of the River-

side Tenants Association. "They say it's going to be underground, but it can't be completely underground. There will still be cars going around and there will still be noise and fumes."

The plans call for creating a cobblestone entrance ramp from Joralemon Street that will run alongside the BQE, retaining wall on the west side of courtyard before reaching a ramp that leads to the sunken garage. The rest of the courtyard — which is currently mostly asphalt — would be replaced with a garden. In order to build the garage, trees in the northern part of the lot would be chopped down, but arbores in the southern section would be preserved.

Residents of the complex will have first dibs on parking spaces.

That did nothing to assuage the anger of the Brooklyn Heights Association.

"It's a devastating decision," said Judy Stanton, the group's executive director. "This courtyard is not intended to be a driveway. It is one of the single most important properties that we have in Brooklyn — putting a garage in it is antithetical."

WILLIAMSBURG

Pol: Let cops run East River park

By Ben Muessig
 The Brooklyn Paper

One North Brooklyn lawmaker has his way, the boys in blue will keep one of the neighborhood's few open spaces

green this winter.

In the wake of state budget cuts that might close East River State Park from January through March, Assemblyman Joe Lentol (D-Williamsburg) proposed last week that cops from Greenpoint's 94th Precinct keep the park open by unlocking it each morning, locking it each night, and patrolling it throughout the day.

"We all need to understand the enormous pressure every-one in state government is in to cut, cut, cut right now," Lentol said about the park, which the State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation will shutter as a part of a \$16-million budget trim. It would be the only park in the state that would be closed in this round of cutbacks.

"I think closing this park would be inexcusable," Lentol added about the tiny green space.

Police have already agreed to open, close, and keep an eye on the park, which is between North Seventh and North Ninth



Here's the glorious East River State Park that will soon be closed in winter due to budget cuts.

streets. But the final decision is in the hands of state Parks Commissioner Carol Ash, who met with Lentol last week.

And it remains unclear whether she is willing to consider the lawmaker's proposal.

"The Commissioner is very much appreciative of his support for the park," said Parks spokeswoman Eileen Larrabee. "They discussed a number of different issues, but I'm not going to speculate on the future of the park."

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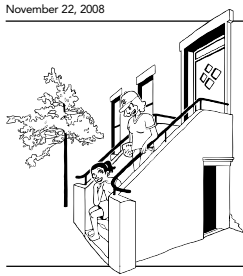
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THE STOOP

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

BAY RIDGE



Heather Hamilton now owns Conservative Party boss Mike Long's beloved Bay Ridge liquor store.

Drinking right

Ridge Conservative Party player sells liquor store

By Ben Muesseg
The Brooklyn Paper

Heather Hamilton has hardly changed a thing in Long's Wines & Liquors since she purchased the Bay Ridge booze shop from state Conservative Party Chair Mike Long in March — but there's one big difference: and it ain't the wine selection.

Longtime Long's employees continue to work their shifts and the right-wing boss's name still graces the Fifth Avenue marquee, but the liquor shop is no longer a conservative salon.

"I'm definitely more liberal than Mike," said Hamilton, a Park Slope resident. "To keep this place open to everyone, I try to keep politics to a minimum."

And that's made it tough this election season for Bay Ridge conservatives and Republicans, coming on top of a string of lewdness including Rep. Vito Fossella's drunk-driving conviction and subsequent retirement, and the failed campaigns by GOPers Bob Stranieri (Congress), Bob Capano (Assembly) and Joe Cammarata (Assembly).

Bay Ridge righties miss having a room of their own.

"I remember going in there and sitting on wine boxes and talking with Mike about politics, government, and the issues of the day," reminisced Capano, who earlier this month netted just 30 percent of the vote in his race against Assemblyman Alec Brook-Krasny (D-Dyker Heights).

Though Long was reluctant to quit after 25 years, the conservative honcho is happy that he's out of the booze biz.

"I'm spending more time with family and I'm spending more time at headquarters," said Long, who was known for fielding calls from the liquor store — at any hour of day.

PARK SLOPE

The fire this time

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

Two long-empty storefronts on Seventh Avenue won't be fixed up until the right tenant comes along, the owner says.

David Chemtob, who owns the two buildings at 79-81 Seventh Ave. that were destroyed in a fire in August, 2004, told The Brooklyn Paper this week that he will custom design the spaces to fit a tenant's needs.

"We're waiting to see what type of tenant we're going to get and whether they want a basement, or two stories, or one story," Chemtob said of the buildings, which are near Berkeley Place. "I don't want to do the job twice."

Chemtob had hired the architecture firm Fogarty & Finger to create a three-story, glass facade building, but a contract with a tenant fell through and he says he's gone back to the drawing board.

"The plans are nowhere now, and it's still for rent," he said.



A developer has a plan (top right) to redevelop the site of Zuzu's Petals and Olive Vine Pizza on Seventh Avenue, both of which burned in a fire four years ago (above), but it's not moving forward.

"Once I sign a deal with a tenant, I would renovate it and work something out with the tenant."

The site is the former home of Zuzu's Petals, which moved to 374 Fifth Ave. after the fire gutted the flower shop. Later,



owner Fonda Sara opened a smaller outpost at 158-A Berkeley Pl., around the corner from the Seventh Avenue location.

"We just want something for the neighborhood because [the fire] ruined that block, being unoccupied for so long and just sitting there," Sara said, though added that it's unlikely that she'd move her resettled floral enterprise back to Seventh Avenue.

If Chemtob renovates instead of rebuilds, he must first fix the roof and clean out the existing storefronts, which have sat untouched since the day of the fire.

PARK SLOPE

Shaya finishes J.J. Byrne park

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

The oft-delayed renovations of J.J. Byrne Park's handball courts are finally done — and just in time for winter!

"It's great they fixed it, but now it's too cold to use them," said Mike Martinez, who has played handball at the courts for 35 years. "It's above 50, then we'll be out there."

The \$1.6-million renovations were paid for by developer Shaya Boynelgreen, who agreed to renovate the four southern part of the park after being allowed to seize it as a staging area for his 12-story Novo condo tower on



Developer Shaya Boynelgreen has finished his \$1.6-million renovation of the southern end of J.J. Byrne Park.

Fourth Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets.

The new park includes restored handball courts, new basketball courts, a dog run, a garden and a skate park, said Parks Department spokesman Phil Abramson — and the work was long overdue.

The city will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Dec. 3 for the renovated park, as well as a ground-breaking ceremony for the synthetic turf field.

The city will also formally rename the greensward "Washington Park" J.J. Byrne was a former Brooklyn Borough President.

KENSINGTON

City seeks stable-izing effect

City would downzone Kensington swath to keep buildings low

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

The city moved forward with rezoning an eight-square-block area near the Kensington Stables — a move that concerned locals who hope will protect the area from large-scale development encroaching on their turf.

The news comes after community leaders, including Community Board 7 and Councilman Bill DeBlasio (D-Windsor Terrace), have spent the last 18 months fighting for a downzoning to limit the height of new buildings to 30-70 feet.

"We want to preserve what's

there," said CB7 chairman Randy Peters, referring to the low-rise buildings that are rapidly giving way to taller, denser developments near the Kensington Stables. "It's a huge victory for the neighborhood."

The proposed area is bordered by Ocean Parkway and Concy

Island Avenue, and between Calton Place and Coney Avenue.

The public review process takes about seven months, and includes public hearings at the community board and City Planning Commission levels, said Department of City Planning spokeswoman Jennifer Torres.

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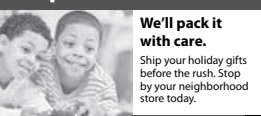


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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

November 22, 2008

Miss Thanksgiving

Jive Turkey owner makes everyone's day — except her own

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

It is the best of times, it is the most troubling of times. For Aricka Westbrook, owner of Jive Turkey, where deep-fried turkeys are the signature (heck they're the only) dish, the week before Thanksgiving should be highlight of the calendar. And it is — for all of Westbrook's turkey-scarfing customers.

Starting on Tuesday and continuing through the Nov. 27 holiday, Westbrook's Fort Greene restaurant has been in a constant state of alert. The phone literally does not stop ringing from the shop's 9 am opening time until its 10 pm closing. Turkey fry cooks are operating round-the-clock on two, 12-hour shifts.

Even Westbrook's mother, Alice, has flown in from Chicago to help manage the crowds and work the door when the lines start forming (in other words, be nice to Alice if you want turkey).

"I'm not complaining because Thanksgiving gives us the exposure that lasts all year," said Westbrook, now overseeing her fifth holiday at her Myrtle Avenue take-out joint. "But it's a bit tiring because where I come from, Thanksgiving was always such a family holiday. Now I work so hard before Thanksgiving Day that I just about collapse on Thanksgiving night."

She collapses so you don't have to, making Westbrook a veritable patron saint of America's true national holiday (no wonder she ships her deep-fried birds all over the country).

"It's a great holiday and I'm thrilled to make it a happy one for people," she said. "Let's face it, no one likes to cook a turkey when the house is full of people you'd rather be talking to."

The goal when Westbrook started in 2003

More Thanksgiving coverage on page 7 and online at BrooklynPaper.com



She's no turkey: Aricka Westbrook, owner of Jive Turkey in Fort Greene, is gearing up for a certain fowl holiday. Wish her luck.

DINING

Jive Turkey (441 Myrtle Ave., at Waverly Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 797-1688) does not take advance orders. Store is open 9 am-10 pm in the week before Thanksgiving and 9 am-3 pm on Thanksgiving Day. Lines are long. Prepare accordingly. Turkeys are \$75.50-\$88.50 during the holidays.

"Just because no one had opened a deep-fried turkey restaurant didn't mean that there wasn't a market for it," she said. "Once you have a deep-fried turkey, you know how good a turkey can be."

Westbrook's background is in marketing, so once she came up with the food — turkey — and the name — Jive Turkey — this thing marketed itself. Now the walls are covered in tributes from customers, newspapers and national magazines — plus the ubiquitous proclamations from Borough President Markowitz (bet you didn't know that Aug. 4, 2003 was "Jive Turkey Opening Day in Brooklyn").

She started with one fryer. Now she has six, all bubbling and hissing day and night, birthing moist, insanely flavorful birds every 20 minutes.

Do the math: That's simply not enough fryer capacity to keep the lines from forming next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Worse, once people get on line, they tend to call friends on their cellphones — and the friends add on their own requests.

"By the time they get up to the front of the line, their order has gone from one peach bourbon turkey to a peach bourbon turkey, a Cajun turkey and two Jive Turkeys," said Alice Westbrook.

The Westbrooks aren't the only people who long for the quieter days this time of year.

"I come in here five times a week," said David Washington, a regular who lives and works in the neighborhood. "The taste is truly unique, juicy and delicious."

"But I never come in during Thanksgiving!"

was certainly not to ruin her own Thanksgiving, but to find a niche in New York's competitive ethnic and comfort food market. Seeing a complete lack of deep-fried turkeys in the city, Westbrook made a decision that others had clearly considered madness: she opened a deep-fried turkey restaurant.

The poultry professor's lesson

By Zeke Faux
The Brooklyn Paper

Still insist on roasting, frying or barbecuing your own turkey this Thanksgiving? Skip the supermarket and head straight to La Pera Brothers in Dyker Heights — the oldest live poultry market in the city. Since 1946, La Pera customers have been taking a gander at the merchandise and picking out their dinners for themselves. Find that a bit intimidating? Don't worry. Just call over manager Carlo Formisano, and this

professor of poultry will give you all the pointers you need:

- 1) Pick a winner: If a turkey looks like he still has the fire in his eye and the fight in his heart, you can be sure he'll taste good on the plate. "That's why customers like to look at them and even touch them until they find one that feels right," Formisano said.
- 2) Don't hesitate: There are always plenty of turkeys to choose from, since La Pera sells about a thousand each November, but call a few days in advance to line up your bird or arrange for delivery.

- 3) Brine the bird. Fresh-killed poultry should be soaked in cold salt water overnight to "tenderize the muscles and tenderize the meat," according to Formisano. But one warning about this increasingly popular technique: you can't make a good gravy with the drippings because the results are too salty.
- 4) It doesn't matter how you cook it: Fry, barbecue or roast — Formisano's not particular. "However you cook it, there is no better turkey than ours," he said. "It's a fact."
- 5) Get ready to say, "Oh, wow!"

"People don't realize the difference," explained second-generation customer Carmine Trovato, a Bay Ridge native who was in the shop the other day. "It's like going fishing, catching something and cooking it right there."

La Pera Brothers Live Poultry (1373 61st St. at 14th Avenue, (718) 438-2577). Birds are \$2 per pound (five weight). You should figure on about two pounds per person. Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 7:30 am-4:45 pm; Friday, 6:30 am-5:45 pm; Saturday, 6:30 am-4:45 pm; Sunday, 7:30 am-2:30 pm; closed Monday.



Good enough to eat: Carlo Formisano shows off his pride and joy, one of the many turkeys that are available at the live poultry market in Dyker Heights.

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BOOKS

Booked 'em

The city is going through one of the worst retail lull periods in decades, but you wouldn't notice from the inside the beloved Court Street shop, BookCourt, where the literati continue their love affair with the printed word in the store's new wing.

The 27-year-old bookseller roughly doubled its size when construction finished a month ago on a rear, sun-splashed addition. The new space freed up clutter in the front of the business and provided a larger area for readings and potentially book club meetings.

"It gives us much more flexibility and people seem to love it," said co-owner Mary Gannett.

And while other bookstores, many of them second-hand shops, have folded, this Cobble Hill juggernaut aspires to build a cafe and a backyard garden with wireless Internet service.

That's possible, because the tough times that have befallen their competitors — and the fact that BookCourt owns its storefront, rather than rents it — have not hit the growing store.

"We're pretty much at the same level as last year," said Zack Zoot, who manages the store owned by his mother, Gannett.

BookCourt 163 Court St., between Pacific and Dean streets, (718) 875-3677.

—Mike McLaughlin

DINING

Meat me

The age-old assumption about restaurants is that there's fast food, and there's fancy food, and nothing in between. But denizens of Bay Ridge are the latest to discover how incorrect that axiom can be.

Five Guys, which has built a cult following since opening its first location in Virginia 22 years ago, has opened on Fifth Avenue — the third ferry into Brooklyn following a debut on Montague Street in Brooklyn Heights two years ago and a second location on Seventh Avenue in Park Slope this year.

Boasting "never-frozen" beef and fresh Idaho potatoes, the burger joint has drawn raves — and our

own "fact-finding mission" discovered ridiculously juicy double beef patties (\$5.99), dripping with melted cheese, and fries that were simply amazing (\$2.99).

Fifteen free toppings — if properly mixed and measured — allow for 250,000 ways to enjoy your burger (just a suggestion: skip the mayo-A1-jalapeno burger).

Five Guys (8510 Fifth Ave., between 85th & 86th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 921-9385). Open seven days, 11 am-10 pm. All major credit cards. —Evan Gardner

DINING

Atomic blast

Just in time for that other bird holiday, Atomic Wings opened its first outlet in Park Slope on Nov. 4, giving Brooklynites a taste of what many believe has been the most elusive snack in the borough — the perfect Buffalo chicken wing.

"At first, I was skeptical of this place, but after I tried it the day it opened, I was pleasantly surprised," said Dustin Morales, who was tacking into a 10-piece order the other day. "I've been back twice already this week."

Teddy Getz, a spokesperson for the chain, which has three freestanding restaurants and three outlets inside bars in Manhattan, said the franchise was as excited as the customers to see the "New York City institution" arrive in Brooklyn.

"We have a commitment to serving a variety of both quality and nutritious food," said Getz, mentioning not only the high quality, but the chain's "no trans fat" promise.

Atomic Wings (221 Ninth St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope) is open seven days a week, 10 am to 11 pm. All major credit cards. Call (718) 768-5665 or visit atomicwings.com for information. —Emily Lavitt

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WHERE TO

EDITORS' PICKS

SUNDAY November 23

Lovers of albums
 This is a great day to head to Red Hook to buy Frank Hoier's new album, "Lovers & Dollars." Sure, everyone is talking about the single, "Jesus Don't Give Tax Breaks to the Rich," but the full LP shows off Hoier's talent for capturing Dylan-esque whimsy. Available only at Jalepy 315 Columbia St., at Woodhull Street in Red Hook, (718) 395-3274 or at www.frankhoier.com.

Tunesmiths at work
 Like we've always said: Brooklyn's singer-songwriters need a showcase. Thankfully, Southpaw in Park Slope has answered our prayers with a monthly series that kicks off tonight with Matt Duke (pictured), King Wilke, Smith and Sari Schorr. 7:30 pm. Southpaw 125 Fifth Ave., at St. Johns Place, (718) 230-0236. \$8 at the door.

TUESDAY November 25

Shaking it up
 You never know who you're going to get at a Castanets concert since Ray Raposa is the only permanent member, but you always know what you're going to get: a musical feast for the ears. This year, that feast comes one day before your stomach gets in on the fun. 7:30 pm. Union Hall 702 Union St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400.

WEDNESDAY November 26

Best holiday!
 All food, no religion; is there anything better than Thanksgiving? Your Turkey Day schedule is probably more stuffed than the bird, but you might want to participate in the 5K run in Prospect Park or go ice-skating at the Wollman Rink reopens. 9 am. Turkey Trot. Race begins at Park Drive near the Concert Grove. Call (718) 595-2049 for info. 10 am-1 pm and 2-6 pm. Ice skating at Wollman Rink (enter park at the Parkside-Ocean Avenue entrance). \$5. \$3 seniors and children. \$6.50 skate rental. Call (718) 287-6431 for info.

THURSDAY November 27

Burn out
 Sex, drugs and rock and roll sounds great on paper, but Alex Cox's brutal 1986 film, "Sid and Nancy," offers another take by delving into the life of Sex Pistol Sid Vicious. It's also a perfect refresher course on the excesses of punk's glory days (remember those spiky haircuts?). 4:30 and 9:15 pm. BAM Rose Cinemas 30 Lafayette Avenue between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 638-4100.

HOLIDAY DAYS IN BROOKLYN

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

SAT, NOV. 22

OUTDOORS
BIRDING INTRO: Noon. Prospect Park Audubon Center (enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue). (718) 267-3400. Free.
RAPTOR WATCH: Look out for Prospect Park's top predators. 1 pm. Audubon Center (enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue). Call (718) 267-3400 for info. Free.

PERFORMANCE
DIVAS OF GOSPEL: Noon. Mt. Sinai Baptist Church 1581 Gates Ave. between Classon and Franklin avenues in Bed Stuy. (718) 875-1016. Free.
PLAY, "JESUS HOPPED THE A' TRAIN": 5:12, 5:10 seniors, \$3 students, 2 pm. Ger-shon Theater at Brooklyn College 2900 Bedford Ave. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500.
DANCE, "LES ECALLES DE LA MIE MOIRE": Senegal's Compagnie Jané-Bi and Brooklyn's Urban Bush Women present a meditation on heritage. 5:30-8:45. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music 30 Lafayette Ave. at St. Felix Place in Fort Greene, (718) 638-4100.
BAND CONCERT: "Salute to the Liberty Pole." 7:30 pm. New Utrecht Reformed Church 118th Avenue and Blvd Street in Bensonhurst, (718) 234-9268. Free.
PLAY, "CONTINUOUS CITY": The Civic Award-winning Builders Association and director Marianne Weems present a multi-media play about our modern age. 8:00-10:00. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music's Harvey Theater 653 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 638-4100.
MUSICAL, "FAME": 5:15, 8 pm. St. Mary's Orthodox Church 81st Street and Ridge Boulevard in Bay Ridge, (718) 775-9110.
PLAY, "LOVE OXFORD": 5:18, 8 pm. Brick Theater 1275 Menlopark Ave. near Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 362-3101.
DUKE ELLINGTON ORCHESTRA: Tickets, \$25-\$100. 8 pm. Whitman Theater at Brooklyn College 2900 Campus Road at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500.
SLUTTY PUPPETS: The name says it all. \$7. 8 pm. Goliath's Art Space 162 Man St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500.
PLAY, "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT": Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic presented by the Narrows Community Theater. 8:00, 8:15 seniors and kids, 8 pm. St. Patrick's Auditorium (Fourth Avenue at 97th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 482-3173).
OPERA, "SEANCE ON A WET AFTER-NOON": 8:00, 8 pm. Post show reception with actors for additional \$100. South Oxford Square 138.5 Oxford St. near Hanson Place in Green-Wood, (718) 938-4024. For info, visit www.operaonproject.org.
ALL BETHOVEN: Classical music program, 8:30, \$20 students, 8 pm. Berg-music (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 624-0283).

SUN, NOV. 23

PERFORMANCE
PLAY, "JESUS HOPPED THE A' TRAIN": 2 pm. See Sat., Nov. 22.
PLAY, "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT": 3 pm. See Sat., Nov. 22.
CONCERT: St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble plays selections by film score geniuses Britten, Herrmann, Bart and Williams. 5:35, 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum 200 East 19th Street between Myrtle Avenue and Prospect Heights, (212) 594-6100.
MEMORIAL SONGS: Featuring Cantor Janet Leuchter, CBS Singers, monks from the Gold Street Monastery and more. 3-5 pm. Congregation Beth Shalom Rouds 271 Garfield Place at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (718) 625-0080. Free.
CLASSICAL MUSIC: Program features works by Stamer, Martinu and Brahms. 5:35, 8:00 students, 4 pm. Berg-music (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 624-0283).
OTHER
CHRISTMAS FAIR: 9 am-5 pm. See Sat., Nov. 22.
HOLIDAY SERVICE: Wampanoag with Remi Gay and the Children's Assembly. 11 am-12:30 pm. Brooklyn Ethical Culture Society 53 Prospect Park West at First Street across from Prospect Park, (718) 788-2972. Free.
ALL-FAITH SERVICE: 11 am. New Utrecht Reformed Church 118th Avenue and 82nd Street in Bensonhurst, (718) 234-9268. Free.
BROWNSTONE TOUR: 11 am. Fort Greene Park (enter park at Myrtle Avenue between Washington Park and North Portland Avenue). Call 311 for info. Free.
FILM, "ROUGH CUT AND READY DUBBED": 5:11, 5:50 seniors and kids 12 and under, 2 pm and 6:50 pm. Also, 1 pm. BAM Rose Cinema 30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 638-4100.
FXERS' COLLECTIVE: "Mending Books and Broken Hearts." Features artists dressed in period clothing, reading poetry to mend broken hearts. 6:00 pm. Proteus Gownus 543 Union St. at Union in Gowanus, (718) 243-1572).

**SNY
Newspaper of the Year
2007**

The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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The best apple pie ever

Brooklyn's own Sweet Melissa shares her family recipe

By Melissa Murphy
for The Brooklyn Paper

Each year, my family insists I bring one of each pie that we offer on Sweet Melissa's Thanksgiving menu to our holiday meal. Our table is usually feeding no more than 15 guests, and with at least seven pies on the menu, there is inevitably a lot of pie left over.

Last year, in the interest of moderating the excess, I made my family choose only five. But which five?

"We have to have the Pear Cranberry with Gingersnap Crumble ... and the Apple," my mom said.

"My brother Jim opined, 'We need the Chocolate Bourbon Pecan ... and the Apple.'"

My little sister Erin, said, "It's no contest — we gotta have Pumpkin ... and the Apple!"

My stepdad Mel chimed in, "I need Coconut Custard ... and the Apple!"

Clearly, we had a consensus. Here's hoping that your family enjoys it as much as mine.

Melissa Murphy is the chef/owner of Sweet Melissa Patisserie (175 Seventh Ave., between First and Second streets in Park Slope, (718) 502-9153, 276 Court St., between Butler and Douglass streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 855-3410). If you don't want to make the pie yourself, you must order it by Sunday, Nov. 23 to get it by Thanksgiving. All major credit cards accepted. Full menu at www.sweetmelissapatisserie.com.



Mom AND apple pie: Melissa Murphy, owner of the Sweet Melissa Patisserie in Park Slope and Cobble Hill, shows off the pie that makes her famous: Her apple pie with buttery cinnamon crumble.

Apple Pie with Buttery Cinnamon Crumble

FOR THE FILLING:
8 Granny Smith apples, peeled and sliced to 1/4-inch slices
Zest of 1/2 lemon, finely grated
Juice of one lemon
1 cup sugar
1 1/2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1/8 teaspoon kosher salt

FOR THE CRUMBLE TOPPING:
1 cup all-purpose flour
3/4 cup light brown sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
4 tablespoons kosher salt
1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted, cooled slightly

Center a rack in the bottom-third of your oven. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper or aluminum foil (to catch drips), and set aside.

In a large bowl, combine the apples with lemon zest and juice. Sprinkle the sugar, flour and salt over the apples and combine well. Pour the apples into a nine- or 10-inch unbaked pie shell, and spread evenly.

In a medium bowl, combine the flour, brown sugar, cinnamon and salt with your fingers, rubbing the mixture between your hands so that there are no lumps. Add the melted butter and mix with your fingers until combined. Crumble the topping over the apples.

Place the pie on the lined cookie sheet and place in the preheated oven. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until the apples are bubbling thickly and a toothpick inserted into the apples offers little resistance. Serve warm with whipped cream or ice cream.

Get your beer here

Park Slopes have long regarded Third Avenue as a drinking — but now there's finally a place to drink away those blues.

On Nov. 10, Draft Barn, an old-fashioned "beer lane" for modern beer fanatics, hung its Habsburg-inspired flag and threw open a massive beer cellar that contains more than 250 varieties of suds.

"We personally tasted every beer we pour," said owner George Mindman, who also operates a sister establishment on Avenue X in Sheepshead Bay. "We went through 3,000 bottles and we're still going."

Highlights from the six-page beer list include Thomas Hardy's Ale, a vintage brew from Devon, England; and Goose Island Matilda, a strong, Trappist-inspired Chicago ale. Draft Barn also pours from a rotating selection of 14 kegs, and most pints are just \$5. The bar plans to host tastings for local breweries Kelson and Sixpoint.

In the comfort of its all-wood

sitting area, customers can drink while watching all the major sporting events — even pay-per-view fights! — on flat-screen TVs. The kitchen offers traditional fare from Midtown's native Hungry Try the goatshead or hand-made sausages (or, if you're adventurous, the pig knuckle).

Draft Barn (Third Avenue between 12th and 13th streets, (718) 766-0515) Hours: Sunday-Thursday, 11 am-4 am; Friday-Saturday, 11 am-4 am.

— Zeke Faux

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BROOKLYN Nightlife

Compiled by Chiara V. Cowan

BAY RIDGE

The Wicked Monk
615 5th Ave. at 44th Street, (718) 921-0601, www.wickedmonk.com
Nov. 22: Ring From a 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. \$5, Crazy 88's & Don Nachos Tequila Party, 11 p.m. \$10, Nov. 23: Adam Varona Acoustic, 10 p.m. \$5, Nov. 26: Holla Back Thruaiguing Live Party, 11 p.m. \$5, Nov. 28: Basement Dogs, 11 p.m. \$5.

BOERUM HILL

Hank's Saloon
46 Third Ave. at Atlantic Avenue, (718) 625-8003, www.xoutlive.com/hankssaloon
Mondays: Live band kuntry karaoke, 10 p.m. FREE, Wednesdays: Live band "Rockstar Karaoke," 9:30 p.m. FREE.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Last Exit
136 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street, (718) 223-9198, www.lastexitbar.com
Saturdays: "Key's Knockout," DJ Key's booty-shake, 10 p.m. \$10, suggested donation, One Ring Zero, 10 p.m. \$10, suggested donation, Nov. 23: Ben Helms, 10 p.m. \$10, suggested donation, Nov. 26: Ben Helms, 10 p.m. \$10, suggested donation, Nov. 28: Matt Danna's Baller, 8 p.m. \$10, suggested donation.

DUMBO

Galapagos Art Space
16 Main St. at Water Street, (718) 223-8500, www.galapagosartspace.com
Nov. 22: Buffy Puppets, 8 p.m. \$7, Galapagos Art Space's Floating Kabarette presents the acoustic music of Huxley Vertical, storyteller Martin Dockery, and down Easters aka Barre, 10 p.m. \$10, Nov. 24: The Maids, 8 p.m. \$10, Nov. 26: T-minus 2008 Time Festival, 7 p.m. \$7.

FORT GREENE

Lox Lounge
15 Putnam Ave. at Grand Avenue, (718) 538-3216, www.nogalassundays.com
Sundays: Revival Reggae Sundays featuring DJ Slaves, Jax, and Natural Mystic, 9 p.m. FREE for ladies and reduced with RSVP for gentlemen before midnight, \$10 after midnight, Nov. 23: International Reggae Night, 9 p.m. FREE for ladies and reduced with

RSVP for gentlemen before midnight, \$10 after midnight.

GOWANUS

The Bell House
149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue, (718) 645-6522, www.bellhousebar.com
Nov. 22: Rapunzel, An Honor, 7:30 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$15 day of the show, Nov. 26: 51 Ten Eleven, Happy Hour, 8 p.m. \$5.

Issue Project Room

252 Third St. at Third Avenue, (718) 350-0313, www.issueprojectroom.org
Nov. 22: Wings Community Singers, 8 p.m. \$10, Nov. 25: Tristan Perich presents Loud Objects Gaze P/NH&S, 8 p.m. \$15.

PARK SLOPE

Barbes
376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue, (718) 865-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com
Tuesdays: Slave Soul Party, 9 p.m. \$10, Nov. 22: Brian Carpenter's Ghost Train Orchestra, 8 p.m. \$10 suggested donation, One Ring Zero, 10 p.m. \$10, suggested donation, Nov. 23: Ben Helms, 10 p.m. \$10, suggested donation, Nov. 26: Ben Helms, 10 p.m. \$10, suggested donation, Nov. 28: Matt Danna's Baller, 8 p.m. \$10, suggested donation.

Prospect Heights

The Backroom
485 Dean St. at Sixth Avenue, (718) 622-7035, www.thefirstbackroom.com
Nov. 22: "Bonzura Extravaganza" featuring Painting Soldiers, Patrick Ryan, Miss Gemini, Carter Westfall, Carla Rhodes, New York vs London, Dark Hall, The Rakabals, Brian Owen, and Jason Traubman, 9 p.m. FREE, Nov. 23: The Push-Pull Quartet, 9 p.m. \$10, Nov. 25: Country Music Night hosted by Seth Koss, 9 p.m. FREE.

RED HOOK

Jalopy
315 Columbia St. at Woodluff Street, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz
Mondays: Country Blue Jam, 9 p.m. FREE, Wednesdays: Roots r' Ruckus, a night of folk, old-time, and blue, 9:30 p.m. FREE, Nov. 22: Smiley Horn's Western Round Up, 9 p.m. \$10, Nov. 23: "The Engine Room," a songwriter's

Union Hall

707 Union St. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 633-4400, www.unionhall.org
Nov. 22: The Secret Life of Sofia, Jeremy Messersmith, Naled Hearts, 8 p.m. FREE, Nov. 25: Jerry Joseph, Bret Moberg, 7:30 p.m. \$10, Nov. 26: The

Southpaw

125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place, (718) 230-2326, www.southpaw.com
Nov. 22: An evening with "Blender" featuring Scary Hours, Your 33 Black Angels, Above the Field, Mx Metro, dren, \$6.50 skate rental, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$2.50 (Parkside/Croton avenue entrance) Call (718) 287-6431 for info.

FRI. NOV. 28

FILM, "JOE STRUMMER: THE FUTURE IS UNWRITTEN," \$11, \$7.50 seniors and kids 12 and under, 2 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 7 p.m. 9:30 p.m. BAM Rose Cinemas 30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100.

THURS. NOV. 27

Thanksgiving
TURKEY TROT: Five-kilometer run, 9 a.m. Race begins at Park Drive near the Concert Grove in Prospect Park. Call (718) 595-2049 for info.
ICE SKATING: Opening day of the William Fink in Prospect Park, \$5, \$3 seniors and chil-



Princes of Austin: Goldcurve, which just released "Portuguese Princes," will bring its Bowie- and U2-inspired sound to Public Assembly in Williamsburg on Nov. 23.

Navigator, Evan Cole, Mr. 13, Legacy Starr, and Dix Extraction Jackson, Scandalize, and Peculiar Gentlemen, 7 p.m. \$5, Nov. 23: Matt Duke, King Willie, Sea School, 7:30 p.m. \$6, Nov. 25: Mute City, in the Trice, Soke Motive, Adams Castle, 9 p.m. \$10, Nov. 26: The Turkey Day Bash with Chin-Chin, Chico Man, Scott & Probe of Nuk Fam and Friends, DJ Koolha, 8 p.m. \$10, Nov. 28: MC Challenge of Champions with Charles Hamilton, Smooth the Hustler, Iron Solomon, A&K Collective, Jaxx James Figueroa, The EOW UK MCs, and more, 9 p.m. \$15 in advance, \$20 day of the show.

The Royale

504 Fifth Ave. at 10th Street, (718) 840-0089, www.royalbrooklyn.com
Nov. 22: Adinkrinke presents "Brooklyn Bridge" with DJ Chris Anonelli and Anon, 11 p.m. FREE, Nov. 26: Johnny Porpino's Royale Royale, a burlesque showcase, 9 p.m. FREE.

Union Hall

707 Union St. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 633-4400, www.unionhall.org
Nov. 22: The Secret Life of Sofia, Jeremy Messersmith, Naled Hearts, 8 p.m. FREE, Nov. 25: Jerry Joseph, Bret Moberg, 7:30 p.m. \$10, Nov. 26: The

Marsh Nature Center (3302 Ave. U in Marine Park). Call 311 for info. Free.
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: Electron Duo plays American music, \$35, \$15 students, 8 p.m. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street) at the East River, (718) 624-2083.

SAT. NOV. 29

PERFORMANCE
ALL BRAHMS: Classical music by the Williams Chamber Players, \$35, \$15 students, 8 p.m. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street) at the East River, (718) 624-2083.

OTHER

CRAPTS AND COLLECTIBLES: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. See Fri., Nov. 28.
FILM, "URGH: A MUSIC WARP," \$11, \$7.50 seniors and kids

workshop with Jan Bell, 5 p.m. \$25.

Rocky Sullivan's
34 Duane St. at DeWitt Street, (718) 246-8050, www.rockysullivan.com
Saturdays: Sanchez and The Unity Squad, 9:30 p.m. FREE, Mondays: The traditional sounds of Chris Byrne and Andrew Harris, 8:30 p.m. FREE, Tuesdays: Live jazz, 7 p.m. FREE, Thursdays: Pub Quiz with host Scott M.K. Turner, 8:30 p.m. FREE.

WILLIAMSBURG

Music Hall of Williamsburg
44 1/2 Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue, (718) 486-5400, www.musichallwilliamsburg.com
Sundays: Allen, Drink up! Buttercup, Electric Owls, 9 p.m. \$13 in advance, \$15 day of the show, Nov. 23: Bishop Allen, The Pains of Being Pure at Heart, 8:30 p.m. \$15 in advance, \$15 day of the show, Nov. 28: Gang Gang Dance, Maria Sam, 25 p.m. \$15 in advance, \$15 day of the show.

Pete's Candy Store

709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street, (718) 302-3770, www.petescandy.com

Sundays: Ocean mix, 5 p.m. Sasha Oleson, 8:30 p.m. FREE, Wednesdays: Quasi-Oz, 7:30 p.m. FREE, Nov. 22: Karl Bruce, 9 p.m. Gang's Bobby's, 10 p.m. Drew Victor, 11 p.m. FREE, Nov. 23: The Heavens, 9:30 p.m. Colonial Radio, 10:30 p.m. FREE, Nov. 24: Spelling Bee, 7:30 p.m. Jason Anderson, 9:30 p.m. Sontag Shogun, 11 p.m. FREE, Nov. 25: The Mike White, 5 p.m. Sina Siam, 10 p.m. Anna Jancza, 11 p.m. FREE, Nov. 26: TED, 10 p.m. Golden Bones, 11 p.m. FREE, Nov. 28: Accidental Seabirds, 9 p.m. Justin McClellan, 10 p.m. 11 p.m. FREE.

Public Assembly

20 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue, (718) 762-5188, www.publicassemblynyc.com
Nov. 22: Jaxxal Music presents Williamsburg Songwriter Competition Semi-Finals, 8 p.m. FREE, "Play it Loud!" 11 p.m. FREE, Nov. 23: Goldcurve, The Silver Rockets, Alana Annen, R. The Rough Gems, Nathan Halpern, DJ Mike

TALK TO US...

To list your events in *Brooklyn Nightlife*, please give us as much notice as possible. Include name of venue, address with cross street, phone number for the public to call, Web site address, dates, times and admission or ticket prices. Send listings and color photos of performers as e-mail to nightlife@brooklynpaper.com or via fax at (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone. The listings are correct as of press time. Contact the venue before you go to confirm event details.

OTHER

CRAPTS AND COLLECTIBLES: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. See Fri., Nov. 28.
READING: Coleridge on Creativity, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Brooklyn Ethnic Culture Society (53 Prospect Park West at First Street across from Prospect Park, (718) 768-2972) Free.

PERFORMANCE

CHAMBER MUSIC: Features works by Beethoven, Mozart and Saint-Saens. The Israeli Chamber Project performs. \$35, \$15 students, 4 p.m. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 624-2083).

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in *Nine Days in Brooklyn*, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail calendar@brooklynpaper.com by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

Notes From Brooklyn

A Musical Celebration to Benefit the Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service

When: Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2008, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Where: Packer Collegiate Institute Chapel, 170 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Tickets: \$20
VIP seating: \$100 (Includes pre-concert reception with cast at 6:00 PM)

To Order: Visit www.bbcs.org

Presented by
The Five Boroughs Music Festival
in partnership with **Sing For Hope**

About the Concert
The concert program is scheduled to include:

A celebration of Walt Whitman's rich cultural legacy in Brooklyn, featuring pianist **Jocelyn Dueck**, baritone **Andrew Wilkowske** and **David McFerrin**, soprano **Ann-Carolyn Bird** and cellist **Sophie Shao**, including a world premiere by composer **Tom Cipullo**.

A performance by students in the **Packer Collegiate Institute Choral Program**.

Special appearances by Brooklyn-based pianist, songwriter and composer **Gabriel Kahane**, and Brooklyn's own **M Shanghai String Band**.

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W'burg hipsters do battle with oldsters

By Evan Gardner
for The Brooklyn Paper

Dozens of hipsters — and the old-timers who resent them — stormed a community meeting on Monday night, showing the ongoing clash of cultures that collided when people flooded the streets after Barack Obama's election win on Nov. 4.

Three people were arrested during the celebration — and many more were roughed up, according to witnesses — and on Monday night, dozens of people who had danced in the streets had a chance to vent their frustrations at the officers of the 94th Precinct.

One after another, youngsters stood up and alleged mistreatment at the hands of the police on the night of Nov. 4-5, after Barack Obama was declared the winner of the presidential election shortly after 11 p.m.

At that time, hundreds of people, mostly young, poured into the streets of Greenpoint, shouting and celebrating. At 3 a.m., after several noise complaints, police dispersed the large, unauthorized crowd, sometimes roughly, speakers said.

"I was filming the event," said one person, who identified himself as a



Nov. 28, 2008

video producer, "and an officer with a handlebar moustache threw my camera to the ground and smashed it."

Another person claimed he experienced mistreatment despite not even being at the celebration.

"I was walking in the street with my friends at 11 p.m.," said the man. "A female officer stopped us and accused us of having an open container [of alcohol]."

He said that this was not the case, but the officer remained abusive.

"She refused to believe us, and told us that we could file a complaint, but it wouldn't matter because it would be an officer's word against

the word of a civilian, and she had a 'perfect record.'"

Each anti-cop comment at the meeting of the 94th Precinct Community Council met with increasing vociferousness from old-time residents. At times, Precinct Captain Dennis Fulton appeared to lose control of the crowd, and one of the meeting's co-chairs tried to use a soda can as a gavel to restore calm.

In the end, the three dozen younger residents heard a mouthful from older residents, who complained just as vocally that three cops were injured in the election-night celebration and that the streets are not the proper place for a celebration in the first place.

The undercurrent, of course, is that many longtime residents feel just as angry as the youngsters about what is happening in a neighborhood that has seen rapid change and gentrification over the last 15 years.

"The police reacted with too much restraint," said an olderder.

Another elderly man directly addressed the younger crowd.

"You people think you can just break the law and create anarchy," he said, drawing boos and cries of exasperation from the hipsters.

approve the hospital's request for a \$3-million loan as a "first step towards stabilizing LICH," she said.

Hutton said that such loans typically carry no interest.

Later on Monday night, Continuum put out a statement that said the group is encouraged that the state has allocated \$3 million for the remainder of this year but also warned that the hospital must be restructured and that many layoffs are coming.

"We will look to work with [state officials] on an alternative solution to LICH's problems. However, if we cannot find a viable solution then unfortunately the losses will be more than pediatrics and obstetrics."

—Mike McLaughlin

JAIL...

Continued from page 1

community the public process to which it's entitled," said attorney Randy Mastro, a former deputy mayor for Rudy Giuliani. "Clearly, the city realizes how outraged taxpayers will be by the half-billion-dollar price tag."

Mastro represents neighborhood groups from Boerum Hill and Downtown Brooklyn and is joined in the case by city Controller Bill Thompson and Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights). They rallied outside the jail on Tuesday.

But on Monday, an official from the Department of Correction told The Brooklyn Paper that the jail expansion plan would go through the rigors of an environmental impact statement, which studies the effects of a proposed project on everything from air quality to traffic patterns.

"There will be an EIS on this," said Steve Morrell, an agency deputy commissioner.

Morrell says that his agency needs a bigger detention center in order to implement a new corrections policy that calls for community jails, which put the inmates closer to their families, lawyers and social service organizations than at the remote Rikers Island complex.

To help blend the Brooklyn jail into the neighborhood, the current plan calls for renting first-floor space to retailers. Previous failed ideas included developing residential housing and a school on the premises, too.

The burst of activity comes after months of back-and-forth bickering between the Department of Correction and the critics of its plan during which Thompson said the city should demolish the jail and sell the property.

Since the city stopped confining inmates in the jail, located between Boerum Place and Smith Street, in 2003, the House of D has existed in a netherworld — not completely shuttered, yet far from being in full use. During the day, some prisoners have been locked in its cells while they await appearances in nearby courts, some connected to the jail by tunnels, at night, the detainees were back on Rikers.

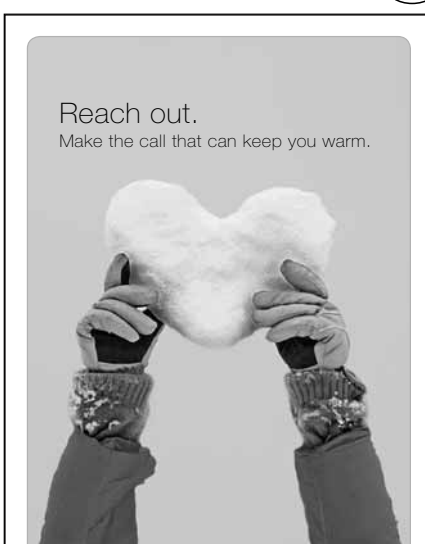
As a result, community residents told The Brooklyn Paper that the reopened facility is unseemly and makes them uncomfortable.

"I'll have to change my walking habits," said Tad Hills of Boerum Hill. "A few years ago, when the jail was still open, I walked in front of the jail with my family and some prisoners [on a corrections bus] started yelling at us."

Of course, there's always a bright side to having a jail in your community. A nearby restaurant manager said he expects to get a bounce in business when the jail is in full swing again — though that won't happen for years.

"We used to do breakfast, but we had to stop when the jail closed," said a manager, who asked for anonymity because many neighbors oppose the city plan. "It's good for business, because the officers come in for lunch."

—with Evan Gardner



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LICH OPEN...

Continued from page 1

based Continuum Health Partners.

"There is insufficient capacity in the hospitals immediately around LICH and in much of Brooklyn to clearly demonstrate that women will have appropriate access to obstetrical and maternity care if LICH closes these services," Clyne continued, echoing a Brooklyn Paper exclusive from earlier this fall.

Staff rejected when the hospital's management sent a memo that the imperiled departments were pulled back from the brink.

"When people found out they were going to keep the wings open, everyone was very happy," said Walter Gloor, a LICH employee.

But the news will not be received well by Continuum, which has said that closing the three wings was a key part of the plan to reduce the hospital's deficit and pay down a \$170-million debt. The hospital has already laid off 100 employees and says that it must sack 200 more.

On the plus side for Continuum, Health Department spokeswoman Claudia Hutton said the state did

MARTYRS...

Continued from page 9

Around midday, the Parks Department unveiled four sculpted eagles that had been taken from the monument more than 40 years ago and stored in the department's headquarters for much of that time. Many park enthusiasts took umbrage at reports that circulated

that Parks Department officials used the eagles as hat racks — a charge denied by the city.

The city was hard pressed to complete its renovations by Saturday, because work stalled for months when the original contractor was indicted for underpaying its workers.

Spectators rekindle interest in a historic site that may not have the resonance of battlefields like Gettysburg, the Alamo or Pearl Harbor, but honors a central moment in our nation's founding.

"The prison ship issue is a very important issue, but it's also a very forgotten one," said Joe Callahan of Park Slope.

Many dignitaries attended the events, including an emissary from the Department of Defense, a descendant of a survivor of the harrowing floating jails and several local elected officials.

"I'm a fifth descendant of James Forten, who was a prisoner on the Jersey," said Kip Jacobs, who lives in Chicago. "I'm very proud to be his descendant and I'm also very pleased to see the dedication involved with this. It touches me deeply."

Keynote speaker Edward Burrows, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author whose new book is "Forgotten Patriots: The Untold Story of American Prisoners During the Revolutionary War," said the deaths of thousands of POWs from humble backgrounds showed that the revolution was not just waged by "gentlemen in powdered wigs and knee breeches."

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OUR OPINION

More Coney baloney

Why is the Bloomberg Administration going into the amusement park business?

We have asked this question repeatedly as we watched — with anything but amusement — the mayor block Coney Island's main landowner in his efforts to spend \$2 billion to turn the faded ocean-front paradise into a glitzy, Vegas-style Xanadu.

We've expressed concern that the mayor was allowing his personal animosity for developer Joe Sitt to hinder the redevelopment of Coney Island, but that concern now turns to horror as the actual cost of Bloomberg's pettiness becomes clearer.

This week, the city moved to buy the landowner's Coney holdings at a cost of hundreds of millions in taxpayer dollars.

The Bloomberg Administration wants the land in order to realize its own vision for the future of Coney Island — a plan that includes many of the same elements: rides, new attractions, a hotel that Sitt himself proposed. But in a time when subway lines are being

slashed, a fare hike is pending and the state is planning to raise funds with dubious East River bridge tolls, we ask again: why would the city spend close to \$200 million to buy Sitt's land when Sitt's basic plan for Coney Island is so similar to what the city says it wants?

City officials say that buying out Sitt is the only way to give the Bloomberg Administration what it needs to save Coney Island, namely control of the land itself.

But that is a myth: the city already has control of the land that Sitt owns because that land is currently zoned only for amusement-related uses.

In other words, no matter how much land he owns, Sitt can't do anything except build an amusement park without a zoning change.

So the city doesn't need to buy out Sitt — it just needs to give a thumbs up or a thumbs down to whatever elements of his plan would veer from existing amusement zoning.

Instead, the city proposes to buy all the land and run the place itself.

That kind of top-down master planning is

simply foolish, especially in tough economic times, when the city will be under great pressure from taxpayers to keep the streets safe, the subways operating properly, and provide basic city services — and do so without raising taxes — rather than spend hundreds of millions on Bloomberg's Coney baloney.

If Brooklyn's renaissance reminds us of anything, it's that this borough does best when City Hall gets out of the way. Look at Fourth Avenue in Park Slope, the Flatbush Avenue corridor in Downtown or the Williamsburg-Greenpoint waterfront; in all three cases, neighborhoods are booming with new housing, new businesses and new excitement all because the city tweaked outmoded zoning and let the private sector and market forces take over.

The cost was minimal, but the benefit to those neighborhoods is incalculable.

The city controls the zoning in Coney Island. It doesn't need to buy Sitt's land. It only needs to enforce its amusement-only zoning, tweak it where needed and then get out of the way as Coney blooms anew.

ALL DRAWN OUT



Cartoon: Herring

LETTERS

Readers still angry over Yassky term limit vote

To the editor,

The recent vote by the City Council to overturn the two-term limit ("Terminated! Biggest loser in Council vote is democracy," Oct. 30) which had been approved by the electorate of New York City twice in the last several years is a serious blow to the law which has been a bedrock of American democracy.

Whether it would be desirable for Bloomberg to run for a third term as mayor and even if he were elected in a landslide is not the point. Our concern as members of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture is that political corruption, which has been epidemic in the present national administration, is being repeated in New York in this attempt to usurp the will of the

people in order to enhance political gain.

If the people of New York wish that the mayor succeed himself, give them the power to decide: using the tactics of legal loopholes to overturn the will of the people, no matter what the rationale, is a dangerous precedent for any government.

This can be clearly seen in the Bush Administration's contempt for the legislative branch of government with its executive powers stretched beyond the wildest fears of the Founding Fathers to subvert legislative measures and the will of the people. It has led to the United States losing its reputation of a pariah in its compromised moral leadership to the rest of humanity.

In this uncertain future we face, we must have confidence that our governmental leaders obey the rule of law since it should be clear by now that many major areas of the business community have shown little regard for following any rules in advancing their own self-interests.

Joel Shatzky, Park Slope
The letter was written on behalf of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.

To the editor,

I am writing in support of Councilman David Yassky because far better David, in fact, if the issue of extending term limits

had never materialized in the first place.

But it did, and so he sat down to make an extremely difficult decision. He wanted to put it to voters in a special referendum, but when that option was denied, he did what he thought was best for the city.

It would have been both far more politically expedient for him to grandstand and vote no. But he didn't. He made the responsible, tough choice. I congratulate him.

Jane Flanagan, Brooklyn Heights

The writer is a former staffer in Councilman David Yassky's district office.

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Jane Flanagan, Brooklyn Heights

The writer is a former staffer in Councilman David Yassky's district office.

Distrust Ratner

To the editor,

Your editorial, "Distrust but verify" (Oct. 25), reminds us that the Atlantic Yards project is still alive, even if it's not doing so well — and it's not just that it's more costly, but it has also become far more toxic.

I am sure we will see more awards given to your paper's coverage of Atlantic Yards should construction eventually proceed. Indeed I would expect that The Brooklyn Paper will end up reporting how Ratner's delay of Atlantic Yards build out will contribute to perpetual gridlock on Atlantic and Flatbush Avenues. That is, replacing Atlantic Yards Phase II residential housing

with interim parking means going back on a commitment to mitigate traffic by using off-site parking with a shuttle service to the arena.

So now instead of this being a transit-related project, the new Atlantic Yards timetable confronts Brooklyn with the prospect of public parking for Ratner's arena and his mall, as well as of a park and ride for the MTA.

Meanwhile, there is no public input on how vehicles are expected to enter and exit the parking areas without further disrupting existing traffic flows!

The new timetable effects will also show up in your ongoing coverage of the Gowanus Canal — in fact, the park has a current piece on combined sewage overflow and long term goals for cleaning up the canal ("Toll's Canal project moves forward," Nov. 1).

Creating interim surface parking with no end date means that accumulating automotive and petroleum-based chemicals will become part of the storm water runoff feeding into a cleaned up Gowanus. How big of a problem this will become appears to rest, like so much else, solely in the hands of the developer. So, continue to distrust and verify. We're counting on you.

Alan Rosner, Prospect Heights

Dems the breaks

To the editor,

The voters have spoken ("Barack-ly," Nov. 8).

The Democrats have won the federal political trifecta and will control all three branches of government by very comfortable margins. They can no longer use President Bush and those nasty, mean old Republicans as a political pitaña and blame them for all of our problems.

Actions speak louder than words. Voters' team fulfillment of all the promises made by the team of Obama, Biden, Reid and Pelosi. Creation of jobs, economic growth, balanced budgets, reduction in long-term debt, creation of budget surpluses, tax rebates for low- and middle-income citizens, improved education and health care access for more Americans, cleaner environment, ending the war in Iraq and protection from potential terrorist attacks on our soil were easy verbal commitments to make.

But the mid-term report card will come due with the 2010 Congressional elections. Remember the promises made in 2008 and see how many are kept between now and 2010.

Larry Penner, Great Neck, NY

Send a letter

By e-mail: Letters@BrooklynPaper.com

By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Brooklyn, NY 11201.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

The Brooklyn Paper PARENT

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

Turquoise turmoil for Smartmom

Continued from page 1

How could she have thought otherwise, considering that back to ninth grade at the New Lincoln School, she and Jean Fliegenheimer spent lunchtime making collages in the art studio because they felt so unpopular?

But OSFO is not Smartmom. Sure, she was upset (who likes to be the subject of negative attention?), but she'd already decided that she was not going to be bullied by her class's assessment of her new hair color.

Smartmom simultaneously felt shame and pride. Shame because she had revealed her own insecurities by offering OSFO an out before they'd even talked about her feelings — and proud that her daughter refused to plead guilty in the court of sixth grade opinion.

Whoa. Smartmom had some growing up to do and a lot to learn from OSFO.

Telling Hepcat's reaction couldn't have been more different. He was routinely ridiculed at school for being different. Growing up in a small farm town in Northern California, his sartorial choices frequently prompted incredulity and hostility from his classmates. He sums it up this way:

"I like all real New Yorkers. I was the weirdest kid in the small town I grew up in. That's why I moved to New York."

He learned at a young age from his large extended family that being different was a good thing. A clan of farmers, engineers, doctors, and artists, they're all proud of their iconoclastic and unconventional

ways.

So while Smartmom was making an appointment at Medusa, Hepcat was bolstering OSFO's decision to follow her own star.

"She's got a strong sense of herself. Sure, she pushed the envelope more than she expected. But it's one of those experiences that will give her a good sense of herself. It will make her a little more assertive and a little more independent." Later that night, Hepcat told OSFO that he was really proud of her.

"There's nothing better than making choices and sticking to them," he said. "From this position, you can win people over and get them to come around."

The next day, OSFO was nervous about going to school. But Smartmom noticed that she was wearing the blue Paul Frank hoodie that matched her hair color. That was bold. As she readied to leave, Smartmom could tell she was a little

bit scared. Smartmom began to do so, too.

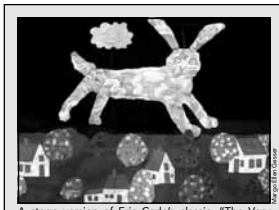
"Your hair looks beautiful. It takes a lot of courage to be different."

Arthis OSFO ran for the door. Clearly, she'd rather deal with a roomful of sixth graders than have to hear her mother make yet another speech.

Then Hepcat called out. "Have a great day. I love you!" The door slammed and Hepcat and Smartmom sat thinking of their sixth-grade selves and how OSFO was years ahead of them.

Louise Crawford Fort

"Only the Blog Knows Brooklyn" is a keeper of the Park Avenue 100, an invaluable ranking.



A stage version of Eric Carle's classic, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," will be performed on Nov. 30 at the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts.

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FAMILY CALENDAR

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

SATURDAY, NOV. 22

9: Breakfast with Santa. Our Lady of Grace (Avenue W and East Second Street in Gravesend). Call (718) 627-2020 for info.

11 am and 2 pm: Art-making class for kids with an adult companion. 58, children 12 and under free. Brooklyn Museum, 1200 Eastern Parkway at Wash. Ave. (718) 638-5000.

12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Hansel & Gretel." Puppetworks (338 Sixth Ave., at Fourth Street in Park Slope). 57, Call (718) 965-3391 for info.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23

10:15 am: Breakfast with Santa. See Sat., Nov. 22.

11 am and 2 pm: Art-making. See Sat., Nov. 22.

12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Hansel & Gretel." Puppetworks (338 Sixth Ave., at Fourth Street in Park Slope). 57, Call (718) 965-3391 for info.

2 pm: "The Very Hungry Caterpillar." Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts (2900 Bedford Road at Hill Place in Flatbush). (718) 951-4600.

3 pm: St. Nicholas arrives on horseback — a Dutch tradition — and hands out treats. Free. Lefferts Historic House (enter Prospect Park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue). (718) 789-2822.

2 pm: Holiday portraits taken by professional photographer.

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